

VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT GUIDELINES

SERVICE PROVIDERS

A. Types of Service Providers Licensed in Alaska

1. A professional counselor applies principles, methods, or procedures of the counseling profession to diagnose or treat, other than through the use of projective testing or individually administered intelligence tests, mental and emotional disorders that are referenced in the standard diagnostic nomenclature for individual, group, and organizational therapy, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral within the context of human relationships and systems.

The Board of Professional Counselors licenses professional counselors. Licensing requirements include (a) passing a written examination; (b) a doctoral degree or a master's degree with 60 additional credit hours – in counseling or related field; (c) 3,000 hours of supervised experience under a supervisor recognized by the board over a period of at least two years; and (d) at least 1,000 hours of the supervised experience performed indirect counseling with individuals, couples, families or groups and at least 100 hours of face-to-face supervision.

2. A clinical social worker provides a service in which a special knowledge of social resources, human capabilities, and the part that unconscious motivation plays in determining behavior is directed through the application of social work principles and methods, at helping individuals to achieve more adequate, satisfying, and productive social adjustments.

The Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners licenses clinical social workers. Licensing requirements include (a) a master's degree or doctoral degree in social work from a board approved university; (b) two years of continuous full-time employment in post graduate clinical social work; or a minimum of 3,000 hours of less than full-time employment in a period of not less than two years in post graduate clinical social work; (c) written examination; and (d) payment of a fee.

A master social worker has received a master's degree and passed a specific examination for the master level. A baccalaureate social worker has received a bachelor's degree and passed a baccalaureate level examination.

3. A marital and family therapist diagnoses and treats mental and emotional disorders that are referenced in the standard diagnostic nomenclature for marital and family therapy, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of family, marital, human relationships. This involves the professional application of assessment and treatments of psychotherapeutic services for the purposes of treating the diagnosed emotional and mental disorders.

Licensing requirements include (a) a master's degree or doctoral degree in marital and family therapy or allied mental health field including specific hours and course work designated in statute by the Board of Marital and Family Therapy; (b) one year of supervised clinical practice; (c) 1,500 hours of direct clinical contact with couples and families within three years of application for licensure; (d) received supervision during clinical contact for at least 200 hours, including 100 hours of individual supervision and 100 hours of group supervision; (e) training related to domestic violence; and (f) written or oral examination.

The board issues a four-year license for the supervised practice. The supervisor holds a license, meets minimum standards established by the board and has practiced a minimum of five years.

4. A psychologist renders or offers to render for a fee to individuals, groups, organization, or the public for the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, or amelioration of psychological problems and emotional and mental disorders of individuals or groups for conducting research on human behavior, a psychological principles, methods, and procedures of understanding, predicting, and influencing behavior including (a) the principles pertaining to learning perception, motivation, emotions, and interpersonal relationships; (b) the methods and procedures for interviewing, counseling, psychotherapy, biofeedback, behavior modification, and hypnosis; and (c) constructing, administering and interpreting tests of mental abilities, aptitudes, attitudes, personality characteristics, emotions, and motivations.

Licensing requirements include (a) a doctoral degree in psychology meeting Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners requirements; (b) one year of board approved post doctoral supervised experience; and (c) an examination.

1. A psychological associate is licensed by the Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners and has met requirements including (a) holds an earned master's degree in psychology; (b) has two years of post master's supervised experience; and (c) passed board examination.
6. A psychiatrist is a physician who specializes in that branch of medicine which deals with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness.